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In the Claims:

 (Original) In a wireless transmitter, a physical layer processor comprising:

a source signal including data;

an FEC (Forward Error Correction) coder to receive the source signal and produce an enhanced source signal including data coded with error correction information;

a demultiplexer coupled to receive the enhanced source signal from the FEC coder;

a plurality of modem processors, each of which is coupled to a unique output of the demultiplexer to process respective portions of the enhanced source signal in independent channels;

a summer coupled to receive outputs of the modem processors to produce an aggregate signal, the aggregate signal being a summation of the enhanced signal processed in independent channels; and

a transmitter to transmit the aggregate signal over a carrier frequency.

- (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, wherein the aggregate signal comprises a spread-spectrum signal.
- 3. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 2, wherein the spread-spectrum signal comprises a direct-sequence spread-spectrum signal.
- 4. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1 provided in a base station of a wireless communication system.

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5. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1 provided in a subscriber station of a wireless communication system.

- 6. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, wherein the FEC coder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.
- 7. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, wherein the FEC coder operates according to a turbo product code.
- 8. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, wherein the FEC coder according to a convolutional turbo code.
- 9. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, wherein the plurality of modem processors are configured in a pooling arrangement.
- 10. (Original) The wireless transmitter of claim 1, comprising a second FEC coder, the first and second FEC coders configured in a pooling arrangement.
- 11. (Original) In a wireless receiver, a physical layer processor comprising:
- a receiver that receives a wireless signal from a transmitter, the wireless signal being formed at the transmitter by a summation of portions of a coded signal that were processed in independent channels but were wirelessly

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transmitted as a single aggregate signal;

a plurality of demodulators coupled to receive an output of the receiver; and

a multiplexer coupled to direct an output of the demodulators to an FEC (Forward Error Correction) decoder to recover a single unitary information signal.

- 12. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11 provided in a base station of a wireless communication system.
- 13. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11 provided in a subscriber station of a wireless communication system.
- 14. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11, wherein the FEC decoder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.
- 15. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11, wherein the FEC decoder operates according to a turbo product code.
 - 16. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11, wherein the FEC coder according to a convolutional turbo code.
 - 17. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11, wherein the plurality of demodulators are configured in a pooling arrangement.
 - 18. (Original) The wireless receiver of claim 11,

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comprising a second FEC decoder, the first and second FEC decoders configured in a pooling arrangement.

19. (Original) In a wireless communication system, at least one of a base station and a subscriber station comprising:

a local transmitter having a physical layer processor comprising:

a source signal including data;

an FEC (Forward Error Correction) coder to receive the source signal and produce an enhanced source signal including data coded with error correction information;

a demultiplexer coupled to receive the enhanced source signal from the FEC coder;

a plurality of modem processors, each of which is coupled to a unique output of the demultiplexer to process respective portions of the enhanced source signal in independent channels;

a summer coupled to receive outputs of the modem processors to produce an aggregate signal, the aggregate signal being an summation of the enhanced signal processed in independent channels; and

a transmitter to transmit the aggregate signal over a carrier frequency; and

a local receiver having a physical layer processor comprising:

a receiver that receives a wireless signal from a remote transmitter, the wireless signal being formed at the remote transmitter by a summation of

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portions of a coded signal that were processed in independent channels but were wirelessly transmitted as a single aggregate signal;

a plurality of demodulators coupled to receive an output of the wireless receiver; and

a multiplexer coupled to direct an output of the demodulators to an FEC (Forward Error Correction) decoder to recover a single unitary information signal.

- 20. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 19, wherein the wireless communication system comprises a spread-spectrum communication system.
- 21. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 19, wherein the wireless signal comprises a full-duplex signal.
- 22. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 19, wherein the full-duplex signal comprises a frequency-division duplex (FDD) signal.
- 23. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 19, wherein the wireless signal comprises a non-full duplex signal.
- 24. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 23, wherein the non-full-duplex signal comprises a time-division duplex (TDD) signal.

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25. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 23, wherein the non-full-duplex signal comprises a half-duplex signal.

- 26. (Original) The at least one of a base station and a subscriber station of claim 23, wherein the non-full-duplex signal comprises a simplex signal.
- 27. (Original) A physical layer signal processor for use in transmitting a wireless signal, the signal processor comprising:
- a Forward Error Correction (FEC) encoder, connected to receive a source signal, and to apply an error correction code;
- a demultiplexer in communication with the FEC encoder, the demultiplexer outputting two or more demultiplexed encoded signals;
- a plurality of modem processors, each receiving a respective one of the plurality of the demultiplexed encoded signals, the modem processors each modulating a respective one of the demultiplexer outputs applied thereto to produce a respective one of a plurality of transmission code modulated signals, the signal processor further characterized by:
 - a summer that is connected to receive the plurality of transmission code modulated signals to thereby produce an aggregate signal; and
 - a transmitter connected to receive the aggregate signal output by the adder, for producing an aggregate transmitted signal.

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28. (Original) The processor of claim 27 provided in a base station of a wireless communication system.

- 29. (Original) The processor of claim 28, wherein the wireless communication system comprises a spread-spectrum communication system.
- 30. (Original) The processor of claim 27 provided in a subscriber station of a wireless communication system.
- 31. (Original) The processor of claim 30, wherein the wireless communication system comprises a spread-spectrum communication system.
- 32. (Original) The processor of claim 27, wherein the FEC encoder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.
- 33. (Original) The processor of claim 27, wherein the FEC encoder operates according to a turbo product code.
- 34. (Original) The processor of claim 27, wherein the FEC encoder encodes according to a convolutional turbo code.
- 35. (Original) A method for transmitting a high data rate signal over a wireless radio channel comprising the steps of:

enhancing the high data rate signal with the Forward

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Error Correction (FEC) code;

distributing the enhanced high data rate signal over a plurality of demultiplexed signals;

encoding each of the plurality of demultiplexed
signals with a spread-spectrum transmission code;

characterized by the additional steps of:

summing the plurality of spread-spectrum transmission encoded signals to produce an aggregate signal; and

modulating the aggregate signal, to produce a transmitted signal.

- 36. (Original) The method of claim 35 in which the transmitted signal is provided to a base station of a wireless communication system.
- 37. (Original) The method of claim 35 in which the transmitted signal is provided to a subscriber station of a wireless communication system.
- 38. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the FEC decoder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.
- 39. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the FEC decoder operates according to a turbo product code.
- 40. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the FEC decoder operates according to a convolutional turbo code.

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41. (New) A subscriber unit comprising:

a wireless transmitter for conducting wireless communications over a digital data communications path, said wireless transmitter comprising

a data link layer for providing an information signal;

a physical layer comprising

a forward error correction (FEC) coder for receiving the information signal and producing an enhanced information signal,

a demultiplexer for receiving the enhanced information signal from said FEC coder, and providing respective portions of the information signal at a plurality of outputs,

a plurality of modem processors coupled to the plurality of outputs of said demultiplexer, each modem processor coupled to a unique output for processing a respective portion of the enhanced information signal in an independent channel, and

a summer for receiving outputs from said plurality of modem processors for producing an aggregate signal, the aggregate signal being a summation of the enhanced information signals processed in the independent channels; and

a transmission layer for transmitting the aggregate signal.

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- 42. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein the aggregate signal comprises a code division multiple access (CDMA) signal.
- 43. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein the aggregate signal comprises a spread-spectrum signal.
- 44. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 42 wherein the spread-spectrum signal comprises a direct-sequence spread-spectrum signal.
- 45. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein said FEC coder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.
- 46. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein said FEC coder operates according to a turbo product code.
- 47. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein said FEC coder operates according to a convolutional turbo code.
- 48. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 wherein said plurality of modem processors is configured in a pooling arrangement.

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49. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 41 further comprising a second FEC coder, with said first and second FEC coders being configured in a pooling arrangement.

- 50. (New) A subscriber unit comprising:
- a wireless receiver for conducting wireless communications over a digital data communications path, said wireless receiver comprising
 - a reception layer for receiving an aggregate signal, the aggregate signal being a summation of an enhanced information signal processed in independent channels,
 - a physical layer comprising
 - a plurality of demodulators, each demodulator for receiving the aggregate signal and providing a demodulated portion of the aggregate signal,
 - a multiplexer coupled to said plurality of demodulators for merging the demodulated portions of the aggregate signals into an information signal, and
 - a forward error correction (FEC) decoder for receiving the information signal and producing a corrected information signal; and
 - a data link layer for receiving the corrected information signal.
- 51. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 50 wherein the aggregate signal comprises a code division multiple access (CDMA) signal.

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52. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 50 wherein said FEC decoder operates according to an iterative systematic nested code.

- 53. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 50 wherein said FEC coder operates according to a convolutional turbo code.
- 54. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 50 wherein said plurality of demodulators is configured in a pooling arrangement.
- 55. (New) A subscriber unit according to Claim 50 further comprising a second FEC decoder, with said first and second FEC coders being configured in a pooling arrangement.